**POWER! I WANT IT! I CAN’T GET ENOUGH OF IT! ME! ME! ME!**

Power Vacuum- The Power structure of Rome collapsed. This created an opening for other people who quickly want to fill it, like a vacuum the people interested in becoming leaders all get sucked in. Afterward there was a struggle for power. It is not unusual for a civil war to determine the leader, or who is in charge of the military forces.

**Caesar dies-**

**Struggle for Power**

Lepidus v. Mark Antony v. Octavian (Caesar’s nephew)

**The Characters**:

Octavian is a no one, only claim to power is through Caesar, as Caesar’s adopted nephew.

Mark Antony was Caesar’s close ally, read the funeral eulogy

Lepidus is a powerful politician

**The interim**: The Second Triumvirate- Sharing of Power amongst 3 individuals.

**The Soap Opera**

Marc Antony marries Octavian’s sister to create a stronger alliance (remember that earlier Pompei had married Caesar’s daughter in the first triumvirate), but then Antony meets Cleopatra...

Octavian defeats Lepidus who retires

The Setting for the final battle with Octavius:

Antony in Alexandria with Cleopatra

Octavian in Rome

Each with their own military they meet at the Battle of Actium

In the wake of defeat, Antony and Cleopatra commit suicide

Octavian wins the Power Vacuum and becomes the Leader of Rome for 41 years- the Republic Ends and Octavian becomes Augustus, “The Exalted One.”

**LONG LIVE THE EMPIRE**

Compare Julius Caesar’s famous saying**, “Veni, Vedi, Vici”—I came, I saw, I conquered** with Augustus’, “**I found Rome a city of bricks, I left Rome a city of marble” (Gravitas?)**

**Based on the above what was Julius Caesar’s goal?**

**What was Augustus’ goal?**

**Enters the Golden Age of Rome**

(remember Pericles ushered in the Golden Age of Greece, why was that period called the Golden Age)

**PAX ROMANA- THE ROMAN PEACE**

**PAX AMERICANA- THE AMERICAN PEACE**

Where does the US have military troops?

What customs, practices, routines (ways of life) have you seen in other countries that remind you of America?

How else have you seen American influence in other parts of the world?

**THE ROMAN PEACE- ROME’S EMPIRE HAD NOW EXTENDED OVER 3 CONTINENTS , ASIA, AFRICA AND EUROPE**- Read p. 153 quote.. What does the author mean when he says that “you have no need to keep troops in those cities”?

Augustus institutes long range policies effecting the infrastructure:

- Better Roads and Bridges (still existing today in Rome)

Transportation of goods and services made easier, improves trade, which allows more people to get what they want.

-Aqueducts

Clean Water to the large populations now living in the Cities:

-Sewer Systems- rid waste from the Cities.

-Civil Service- salaried employees working for the Government to ensure that the infrastructure remained in proper repair and worked orderly- Civil Servants often rose to prominent positions. Also helped to watch over the Administration of the colonies.

(What is the view of Civil Servants today, postal employees, policemen, teachers, firemen, engineers for the government)

Cities in the Empire witness a Population Boom!

**Money Supply-**

- Monetary System- coinage v. barter

What is Barter?

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Why is Coinage better than Bartering?

Advantages of coinage

1. Stores value- Doesn’t rot or decay like agricultural products..

2. Divisible- Barter products such as a horse is only valuable in its whole, the value of the other product may be only half a horse, therefore how can you divide a horse.

(In Prisoner of War camps Cigarettes were often used as coinage, how do cigarettes provide an adequate monetary system)

3. Easy to Carry (Transportable)

4. Helps develop a standardized value to services and goods

5. Avoids the Double Coincidence of Wants!

**What else did Augustus do?** Reduced Taxes to spur trade

**THE FIRST POLITICAL SPINMEISTER?**

Today politicians regularly try to portray themselves in the best possible light to try to gain the people’s support. Sadly, as we well know sometimes their private acts and public acts can be quite different.

**To what extent should government get involved in morality issues?**

Augustus also acted in public in a very modest way:

Augustus enacted a comprehensive program of social, religious and moral reform

a) special incentives were given to couples with children, discouraging abstinence

b) adultery was severely proscribed

c) laws were enacted to control luxury

d) supported traditional religion, restoring temples, requiring the worship of the traditional deities

All of Augustus' efforts were aimed at personal popularity with the army and people, and acceptance of his power by the Senate; he harkened back to simplicity, and the ideas of Cincinnatus. Augustus likewise expected high moral standards from others in government.

In reality, Augustus was a bit of a hypocrite, but everyone kept it quiet.

**Rome takes on Greek culture**

Writers like Livy, Virgil and Cicero

**Satire** becomes a popular form of literature- Satire attempts to make fun of real life situation by “mocking” them. An Example would be when Saturday Night Live does a skit about the President. The strength of the satire lies in its roots of reality.

**The other side of Rome: Decadence, amorality and immorality.**

*Decadence*- Powerful people in Rome became more and more lacking in quality. Tendency amongst the people to be more and more amoral and less humane

**And for Public Entertainment**?

*Colosseum and Circus Maximus built*

Tens of thousands of animals are slaughtered for sport as well as human gladiator fights to the death. At times for the enjoyment of the crowd a human would fight a lion or other man-killing animal.